

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-4 (canceled).

5. (previously presented) A method for determining an IBD or pre-IBD phenotype of a test cell from a given tissue, comprising detecting the presence or absence of differential expression, relative to a control cell of the given tissue type, of at least 5 different genes shown in Table 1, wherein the presence of differential expression indicates that test cell has an IBD or pre-IBD phenotype.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said differential expression is upregulation or downregulation by at least a factor of two.

7. (original) The method of claim 5, which is used to assess a patient's risk of having, or developing, an inflammatory bowel disease.

Claims 8-18 (canceled).

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said test cell is an intestinal cell.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, comprising detecting the presence or absence of differential expression of at least 10 different genes shown in Table 1.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, comprising detecting the presence or absence of differential expression of at least 25 different genes shown in Table 1.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, comprising detecting the presence or absence of differential expression of at least 50 different genes shown in Table 1.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, comprising detecting the presence or absence of differential expression of at least 75 different genes shown in Table 1.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said genes belong to distinct functional classes.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said detecting comprises in situ hybridization.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein said detecting comprises hybridization to nucleic acid probes immobilized on a solid support.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said nucleic acid probes are immobilized in a two-dimensional array.

28. (previously presented) A method for determining an IBD or pre-IBD phenotype of a test cell from a given tissue, comprising detecting the presence or absence of differential expression, relative to a control cell of the given tissue type, of at least 5 different genes shown in Table 1, said genes belonging to distinct functional classes, wherein the presence of differential expression indicates that test cell has an IBD or pre-IBD phenotype.

29 (previously presented) A method for determining an IBD or pre-IBD phenotype of a test cell from a given tissue, comprising detecting the presence or absence of differential expression, relative to a control cell of the given tissue type, of at least 25 different genes shown in Table 1, wherein the presence of differential expression indicates that test cell has an IBD or pre-IBD phenotype.